

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 243158

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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FODAG

FOLTEL RPTD FOR YOUR INFO

SENT SECSTATE FM NEW DELHI NOV 01

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 14750

PASS AGRICULTURE

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, IN

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE--GOI VIEWS AND COMPOSITION OF
WFC DELEGATION

REF: A. STATE 237804

B. A-7901

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT RECEIVED REF B. COULD YOU FURNISH US TELE-
GRAPHIC SUMMARY TO FACILITATE OUR RESPONSE.

2. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, JAGJIVAN RAM, IN CONVERSATIONS WITH
AMBASSADOR AND SENATOR PERSON TODAY, EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THE
SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT POINT THAT MUST BE STRESSED AT WFC IS NEED
FOR DEFICIT COUNTRIES TO EXPAND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

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PAGE 02 STATE 243158

HE SAID THAT THIS DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN FOOD PRODUCTION

BUT THAT COUNTRIES SHOULD EMPHASIZE PRODUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL CROPS FOR WHICH THEIR SOIL, CLIMATE, AND CAPABILITY IS THE GREATEST. PARAPHRASING HIS COMMENTS, THIS MEANS THAT SOME COUNTRIES OUGHT TO SPECIALIZE IN CERTAIN CROPS FOR EXPORT AND RELY ON OTHERS WHO ARE MORE PROFICIENT IN THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD-GRAINS.

3. TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE OF GREATER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION INEVITABLY WOULD REQUIRE THE TRANSFER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FROM TH
SE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE THE KNOW-HOW TO THOSE WHICH DO NOT.

4. RECOGNIZING THAT IT WILL REQUIRE TIME TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND AGRICULTURAL OUTPUTS, GOI SUPPORTS THE CONCEPT OF FOOD AID IN THE INTERIM. IT FAVORS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EMERGENCY FOOD AID PROCEDURES FOR DISASTER RELIEF.

5. IT ENDORSES THE PRINCIPLE OF WORLD FOOD SECURITY THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORLD FOOD RESERVES TO BE FINANCED BY THE DEVELOP-
ED COUNTRIES AND OPEC ON WHICH MSA COUNTRIES COULD DRAW AT CON-
CESSIONAL PRICES AND TERMS. IF UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO FIRM AGREEMENT ON AN INTER
-
NATIONAL SYSTEM OF NATIONAL RESERVES AS PROPOSED IN RESOLUTION
7, REF A.

6. GOI FAVORS EQUITABLE WORLD SHARING OF ESSENTIAL PRODUCTION INPUTS SUCH AS FERTILIZER, PESTICIDES, HERBICIDES, AND IMPROVED VARIETIES OF SEEDS. THE VIEW IS HELD THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF SUCH PRODUCTION REQUISITES IS ESSENTIAL TO OVERCOMING PRODUCTION DEFICITS.

7. MR. JAGJIVAN RAM, NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WILL HEAD THE INDIAN DELEGATION. THE OTHER DESIGNATED MEMBERS (ALL FROM MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MR. PRASAD) ARE: G. C. L. JONEJA, SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF FOOD; M.S. SWAMINATHAN, SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION; ABU HAKIM. DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND FOREIGN AID; RAM SARAN. ECONO-
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PAGE 03 STATE 243158

MIC & STATISTICAL ADVISER, DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS; K. PRASAD, AGRICULTURAL COUNSELOR TO ITALY.
MOYNIHAN UNQTE INGERSOLL

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